Hafa Adai!

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXV, Issue No. 135

www.saipantribune.com | THURSDAY JULY 9, 2015 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune | 75¢

WITH DAMAGE TO SUBMARINE FIBER OPTIC CABLE

CNMI should brace for slow Internet speeds

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

A damaged submarine fiber optic cable and a backup system that also needed tweaking effectively cut off Saipan from the rest of the world early yesterday.

According to IT&E, the largest service provider on the island, the damaged cable that caused the massive outage was located between Saipan and Tinian.

IT&E executives were summoned yesterday afternoon on Capital Hill to give an update on the outage.

In its initial update, IT&E said all long distance calls, all Internet services (using DSL), all mobile data services (4G, CDMA, and GSM), all 4G networks, and all SMS networks were down.

Essentially, only the landlines were left operational. Calls going out of Saipan were also not possible, including calls to nearby Tinian and Rota, which also suffered the same effects.

According to Vhelma Palacios, IT&E's head of engineering, a "break" was identified along IT&E's undersea fiber cable located between Saipan and Tinian at 2am yesterday.

Palacios said IT&E immediately started repair work on the "break" which was closer to the Saipan shoreline.

High seas and rough undersea currents brought by Typhoon Chan-Hom were identified to have caused the damage.

Fred Hill, regulatory compliance officer at IT&E, said large waves along the area caused a boulder to flatten the fiber optic cable.

The cable is located on top of a reef and is not buried or embedded due to environmental laws.

Hill said as soon as the dam-

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'Dangerous' category 4 Typhoon Nangka forecasted to head near Saipan

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

» Typhoon condition 1 expected to be raised in the islands today

Typhoon Condition 1 is expected to be raised in most of the islands today as a dangerous category 4 typhoon is headed near Saipan.

As of last night, the closest point of approach for Typhoon Nangka was expected to be at 90 miles north of Saipan at 2pm today, according to Homeland Security and Emergency Management deputy special

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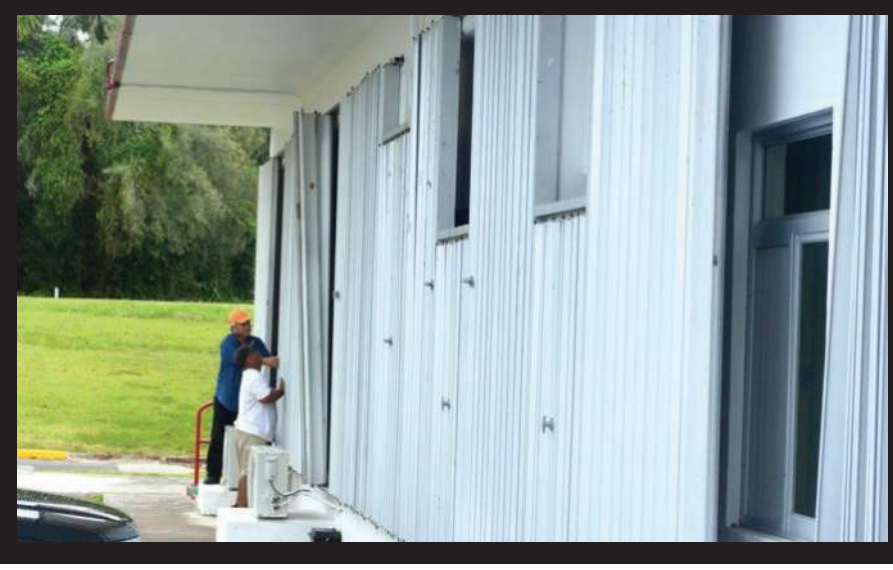

JOEL PINAROC

Government workers start setting down typhoon shutters at the Governor's Office on Capital Hill yesterday afternoon in anticipation of Typhoon Nangka.

DENNIS B. CHAN

A woman helps Asian Airlines general manager Syungnum Park get a signal as he makes a satellite phone call off-island at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport.

Airports forced to process passengers manually

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority on Saipan yesterday lost contact with its sister airports on Rota and Tinian, and along with customs and security agencies aimed to continue normal operations after the CNMI-wide network outage forced some airlines to cancel flights and left others to process passenger manually.

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IT&E

NEXT IS NOW

SAMSUNG Galaxy S6

Local

Commerce at standstill due to network outage

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

McDonald's is one of the few establishments on island that is able to accept card transactions using its older, non-online machine.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Bank of Hawaii's as well as other banks' ATMs are all offline because of the network outage being experienced island-wide.

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REOPRTER

IT&E's network outage is expected to exact a big toll on the islands' economy as business is literally at a standstill.

Customers can't use debit or credit cards for most of the establishments on island and cash became the only recognizable asset to have on hand.

"Everybody's just concerned about being able to get access to their money and being able to transact, that's the issue. Commerce is relatively at a standstill because most people use credit cards, debit cards," said Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan.

"This is going to be a struggle for the day and maybe the next day. I don't know how long this is going to take," he added.

Sablan said that they are concerned about how the backup system did not work and is hoping that IT&E will fix the problem soon.

"As we understood, when the cable goes down there's supposed to be a microwave system that's a redundancy right so we're concern that that redundancy just didn't kick in," Sablan said.

"Commerce is going to be at a relative standstill until the backup system and we're hoping IT&E gets it back up soon," he added.

He also pointed out that the Commonwealth is losing money because of the disruption.

"That's the tough part. Commerce is down. Government is not making money," Sablan said.

One of the few food establishments that can still accept cards is McDonald's because of an old, non-online machine that they have, according to manager Julie Jones.

Limited bank operations

All automated teller machines are not functioning on island.

Aside from that, banks are not able to access their customers' accounts. There is no problem with deposit transactions but withdrawal transactions are hard.

For Bank of Guam, manager Larry Philip said that withdrawal transactions are on a case-to-case basis.

"There are certain things that we are reviewing to make sure that everything is according to our operations," Philip said.

"We are basing on the knowledge that we have on our customers," he added.

Bank of Hawaii did not give an official comment on the network problem but posted on their machines and doors that they are unable to process withdrawal transactions until further notice.

However, a teller said withdrawal transactions over the counter may still be possible in some cases if you have your account numbers as well as identification cards.

Some checks may still be encashed.

Request for help

Homeland Security and Emergency Management deputy special assistant Gerald Deleon Guerrero said that they are communicating with Guam and the Joint Region Marianas regarding the network problem in the CNMI and may request support.

"I'm leaning forward to make a request data-wise and communication," Deleon Guerrero said.

He added that the Joint Region Marianas may have a facility or equipment that could further help CNMI in terms of getting better communication access although because of the typhoon, transporting the equipment may also take a while.

Deluge of customers

IT&E employee Franz Granada said customers have been coming in and out of their office since yesterday morning asking for updates.

One customer, Nicolas Claxton, who is doing a teaching assistance job in the mainland, was one of those who went by hoping to get a way to call long distance.

"I'm in charge of doing grades and things like that and I can't do anything because I don't have online access and since I can't call out, I can't even let them know that I can't do it," Claxton said, adding that today was supposed to be the deadline for his task.

Regulators see no problem in allowing smoking inside temporary Garapan casino

The Commonwealth Casino Commission sees no issue in allowing smoking inside a temporary casino that will soon rise at the T Galleria in Saipan.

Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero, said from his understanding, "the law allows it" and it is "legal."

"There is a current law banning smoking in public facilities puts an exemption for casinos," Deleon Guerrero said.

Guerrero acknowledged that there are some concerns "from some people" regarding the anti-smoking law.

Saipan Tribune has received feedback from workers in nearby establishments expressing concerns on smoking inside the casino, considering the casino is open 24x7.

But Deleon Guerrero said the exemption is there. "So if you are to ban it (smoking in gaming establishments), then you are violating the law. At the end of the day, the law allows smoking inside the casino."

Updates

Deleon Guerrero said Best Sunshine International, Ltd. is continuing its training activities.

He said the third floor of the Bank of Guam is now being used by BSI for "food and beverage orientation," while the fourth floor continues to be a gaming training facility.

"There are a bunch of gaming machines, and a lot of trainees," Deleon Guerrero said, adding that security training is also being held.

Speaking of gaming machines, the commission has now issued eight provisional licenses. This means these vendors are licensed to sell gaming machines to BSI for the temporary gaming facility. ***(Joel Pinaroc)***

Saipan Tribune **has been forced to downsize our pages from the standard 28 pages to 16 today due to the island-wide network outage experienced by IT&E.**

TRAPPED TRUCK JON PEREZ

A delivery truck of Saipan Ice & Water Co. gets stuck on a huge hole along Beach Road near the Tasi Tours yesterday. Another motorist a couple of years back also suffered the same fate after her car also fell and got stock on the hole.

Rapadas says he respects Inos' commutation of Fitial's 1-year sentence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Chief prosecutor Leonardo Rapadas said yesterday he respects the decision of Gov. Eloy S. Inos for the commutation of former Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's one-year prison term.

"That's up to the executive," said Rapadas when asked for comment about Inos' commutation of Fitial's prison term. "We're a nation of laws. We are Commonwealth of laws. So under our laws, the governor has pretty much discretion what he wants," he said.

Rapadas said Inos chose to use his power that way and that's totally his discretion under the law.

Rapadas said the Board of Parole made their recommendation of commutation and it sounds that Inos followed it.

As a Commonwealth, the chief prosecutor said, they put together their case with the Office of the Public Auditor.

"We presented it and we got convictions," he said.

Rapadas said they're happy that at least they have convictions in this case.

Rapadas said commutation does not mean that Fitial's convictions are gone or erased.

"Fitial is now a convicted criminal. So his various rights and liberties, he doesn't have that anymore as a convicted felon," he added.

Attorney Stephen J. Nutting, counsel for Fitial, on Monday said that Inos deserves no criticism in deciding to commute the one-year prison term for Fitial.

Nutting said it was obvious that Inos spent a great deal of time in considering and detailing the numerous factors which supported his decision.

OPA legal counsel George Hasselback said he recommended to Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman a sentence what he saw was appropriate for Fitial.

Hasselback said Wiseman imposed a different sentence and Inos substituted his judgment for that of the judge.

Hasselback said Inos believes in his right to do the commutation of Fitial's sentence.

"Beyond that I don't have much to say," said the OPA legal counsel who also serves as the special prosecutor in Fitial's case.

At the sentencing hearing last June 24, Hasselback recommended to slap Fitial with a two-year imprisonment with no parole. Rapadas recommended a sentence of more than a year in prison.

Wiseman sentenced the 69-year-old Fitial to one year in prison. The former governor was supposed to start serving the prison term on Monday, but Inos decided on Sunday for the commutation of the jail term.

Fitial signed a plea agreement with the government and pleaded guilty last May 13 to misconduct in public office and conspiracy to commit theft of services, making him the first governor of the CNMI convicted of crimes.

DOL fines KN Corp. $2,000

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

The CNMI Department of Labor ordered a fine for KN Corp., which is doing business on island as Sherwood.

According to the order issued by the department's Administrative Hearing Office, the company is sanctioned a fine of $2,000.

It said that the employer failed to post job vacancy announcements at the DOL's website. The order also stated that there was no evidence that the employer made any real effort to recruit of hire U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

It added that "the failure was largely the result of negligence on the part of the agent; however, the employer cannot simply pass off its obligations on an agent and forget about them."

Half of the fine must be paid no later than 30 days after the issuance of the order, while the other half may be suspended for one year and then extinguished if KN Corp. commits no further violations of CNMI labor law during that period.

The order also requires KN Corp. to submit a revised workforce plan to the citizen job placement availability and the job placement section.

The company was also ordered to post all job vacancies and job renewals in the future in the DOL website.

Should KN Corp. fail to comply, it will be subject to the reinstatement of the suspended fine as well as possible additional monetary sanctions to be determined in another hearing.

TYPHOON

From Page 1

assistant Gerald Deleon Guerrero.

"The forward movement has slowed down," Deleon Guerrero said.

Earlier, Nangka was expected to be closest to Saipan in the morning but it has slowed down from 17 miles per hour to 9 miles per hour.

Nangka was moving west but is expected to make a west-northwest motion last night through this morning.

Because of its sudden slow movement, Typhoon Nangka is expected to gain strength.

"There is a lot of room to intensify further," Deleon Guerrero added.

Last night, Nangka's maximum sustained winds were at 130 miles per hour. Typhoon force winds extend outward up to 45 miles from the center and tropical storm force winds extend outward to 140 miles.

Its eye was located at 245 miles east of Saipan or 295 miles southeast of Pagan.

As of the 8pm bulletin last night, Typhoon Condition 2 was maintained by acting governor Ralph DLG Torres for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, Agrihan, Alamagan, and Pagan.

According to Deleon Guerrero, they are in constant communication with the Northern Islands through Mayor Jerome Aldan.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR A STORM

- Fill cars up with fuel
- Clean yard of potential debris
- Stock up on non-perishable foods and drinking water
- Obtain batteries, flashlights, and battery-operated radios
- Secure windows; put up or close shutters
- Remove or secure window air conditioners
- Adjust freezer or refrigerator to high and avoid opening in order to preserve perishable foods
- Attain enough fuel for lamps, stoves, and generators.
- Fill containers with water good for several days
- Have rags ready for slow leaks of wind-driven water
- Park cars in protected area.

WHAT TO DO DURING A STORM

- Stay indoors.
- Stay away from windows and sliding glass doors.
- Minimize usage of telephone
- Listen to the local media or NOAA Weather Radio for the latest weather bulletins
- Do not touch loose or tangling wires after storm
- Do not drive around until the all clear is given.

Source: National Weather Service Forecast Office Guam.

Currently, there are a total of 20 residents in the three mentioned northern islands.

Shelters open

Under Typhoon Condition 2, shelters were opened to the public.

For Saipan, shelters are Tanapag Middle School, Garapan Elementary School, Koblerville Elementary School, Dandan Middle School, and Kagman High School.

"Because of our problems with communications, we are having the Department of Public Safety, the radio stations and every one, pass and get this message out to the public," Emergency Operations Center manager Joey Dela Cruz said.

According to acting press secretary Matt Deleon Guerrero, residents who need to be picked up may call the shelter transport at 322-9457.

Because of the approaching typhoon, residents are advised to maintain necessary precautionary measures for gusty winds, heavy rain showers and possible flooding in low lying areas.

Residents are also reminded to secure all loose objects around that need to be strapped down or removed and secured to prevent being picked up and propelled by the strong winds.

Torres shuts down govt

The CNMI government will not open its offices tomorrow due to the approaching typhoon.

According to acting governor Ralph DLG. Torres, non-essential services will be closed, but essential services including the Homeland Security & Emergency Management, Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, among others will still be open.

Acting Press Secretary Matt Deleon Guerrero said the advisory was given by the acting governor yesterday afternoon, as the CNMI prepares for another typhoon.

Offices on Capital Hill, including the Governor's Office and the Legislature started shutting down as early as 4pm after the advisory was handed down.

"Once we get an all clear, then government offices will open the next day," said Deleon Guerrero.

Summer classes suspended

The Public School System, meanwhile, has suspended its summer classes until further notice as typhoon winds are expected to hit the CNMI today.

Schools were also on standby as emergency shelters as of press time yesterday.

An order issued by Education Cmmissioner of Dr. Rita Sablan yesterday effectively suspended the PSS summer program until further notice.

The one-month program is from June 30 to July 21.

The program offers reading, mathematics, and other courses for PSS students.

The program involves PSS elementary, middle and high schools.

District Court closed today

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered the closure of court yesterday as of 3pm due to the approach of Typhoon Nangka.

Manglona said the court will be closed until tomorrow, Thursday.

"Heavy rainfall and damaging winds are expected," said the judge in one-page order.

Starting at 3pm yesterday, court staff members along with lawyers and employees of the U.S. Attorney's Office and U.S. Probation Office were seen leaving the Horiguchi Building, where their offices are located.

Saipan Tribune requested to be allowed to proceed to the U.S. Coast Guard's office in the same building for interview about the typhoon, but was told that nobody was there anymore.

Starting at 3:30pm, many motorists began to purchase gas for their vehicles. Gas stations, however, accepted cash only because of Internet problems related to IT&E's CNMI-wide network outage. ***(With reports from Ferdie de la Torre, Joel Pinaroc, and Dennis B. Chan)***

INTERNET

From Page 1

age was identified, IT&E turned to its backup system, which is a microwave dish located on Rota.

But it turned out that the microwave system was itself "damaged" and needs to be "realigned." According to Hill, the microwave system was damaged by Typhoon Dolphin.

Hill said repair activities have started for the microwave system, and it is expected that it would be online by today.

Palacios added that IT&E chartered a helicopter going to Rota to transport a repair team to look at the microwave dish.

It was made clear that the microwave backup will not have the same capacity as the submarine cable, which will result to slower Internet speeds for the CNMI.

Hill said basic services such as voice and SMS are expected to come back today, as well Internet access.

But Internet access will not be as fast as before, and that services requiring higher bandwidths—including Netflix and other streaming services—are expected to be drastically affected.

Palacios said IT&E cannot provide the exact speeds as it needs to "calculate the capacity" of the backup system and that services need to be prioritized for critical businesses, including banks.

JOEL PINAROC

Acting governor Ralph DLG. Torres presides over an emergency meeting on Capital Hill yesterday after the CNMI was hit by a massive communications outage

She said IT&E will also provide updates on the capacity of the network.

Repair of the damaged fiber optic cable will take a longer time. IT&E reckons that it will take three months to repair the damaged fiber optic cable.

Rose Soledad, IT&E managing director, said the service provider will continue to provide customer updates on a regular basis over the radio and press releases.

Priorities

Acting governor Ralph DLG. Torres called for an emergency meeting yesterday to allow IT&E to give the updated information to the CNMI government.

Torres said one of his primary concerns was to clarify rumors that the outage will last for "weeks, even months." He said he also wanted to find out from IT&E how the outage will affect critical services including banking, health, transport, and government operations.

"We invited IT&E to give us the updates and for us to know how to prepare for this," Torres said.

Almost all of the CNMI departments were represented during the meeting, as well as the Office of the Attorney General. Torres said the CNMI government can also call on the military depending on the situation.

Torres said after hearing the updates, the immediate action now is to "inform the community that the system is down."

"We got some assurance that mobile phone services and Internet access will be back," Torres said, adding that IT&E promised to try its best to keep the phone lines up and running.

Torres said he "is satisfied to know" that it seems the services will be back "sooner than expected."

Déjà vu

IT&E Sales and Marketing manager Hans Mickelson compared the current network outage to a 2008 incident during a briefing earlier at IT&E headquarters.

However, Mickelson said at that time "just a few strands" of cable were damaged.

He said from start to finish, the repair took two or three weeks.

The entire cable wasn't down at that time, he said.

He called yesterday's cable damage an "act of God."

He said he has been with the company for 10 years and has seen other instances where weather has caused damage to not only undersea equipment but also microwave equipment and IT&E towers.

He said weather is a major factor, noting that after years and years of undersea currents "something's got to give."

Mickelson said the diagnostic equipment used by IT&E technicians to assess the cable damage was laser shot down to the cable to "see where the anomaly is." ***(With reports from Dennis B. Chan)***

AIRPORTS

From Page 1

As of press time yesterday, CPA said Delta Airlines and Cape Air/United had cancelled their flights.

CPA said Asiana Airlines and Jeju Air flights were ongoing.

CPA also said Star Marianas Airlines was continuing flights.

However, it's unclear how flight statuses have changed due to weather conditions from the approaching Typhoon Nangka, as of press time yesterday.

Flights would be facilitated "manually," Commonwealth Ports Authority director Maryann Lizama.

She said they were partnering with Transportation Security Authority, Customs and Border Protection, and airline companies to manually process passengers.

"It's going to be a slow and tedious process," she said. "It's going back old school to do things manually."

Lizama said communication between the seaports were fine, as vessel traffic controllers used radio frequencies.

Air Traffic Control towers were operating as they also use radio.

However, she said, they could not communicate with Rota and Tinian airports as off press time yesterday.

"We're basically blocked out from the outside world," she said.

Lizama also said Star Marianas continued operations.

Asianas Airlines general manager Syungnum Park was spotted at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport trying to contact off-island headquarters with a satellite phone yesterday.

Park called the network outage a "very serious problem." "But we still have flights that need to come here, so we are going to be manually checking," he said.

Airline officials from the different airlines met with IT&E yesterday morning.

The repair of the damaged fiber optic cable responsible for Internet, wireless, and long-distance service is expected to take weeks.

Byoung Wook, who was waiting at the airport with his wife and child, said they could not reach contacts in South Korea yesterday.

"Fortunately yesterday, I contacted my family," he said.

Passengers feel initial impact of 'offline' system

Passengers of a Cape Air flight scheduled to fly at 4:15am yesterday felt the initial impact of a downed system, which affected the whole of Saipan.

According to IT&E, the largest service provider on the island, a damaged submarine fiber optic cable was detected at 2am yesterday, which affected all businesses that rely heavily on the online platform.

A passenger, who requested anonymity, said she and other passengers of the 4:15am flight were informed at around 3am that there was a "glitch" in the system which has caused a slight delay in the check-in counters.

The counter was supposed to open at around 2:30am.

At around 5am, passengers were told that the ground staff will conduct a manual checking instead of online because of the glitch.

The staff then proceeded to collect the passports of the passengers and use a satellite phone to check them in one by one, the passenger, who was bound to the Philippines, said.

The manual checking was completed at around 9am, which was followed by a final security check and issuance of the boarding passes.

But the passengers were eventually told that the flight was canceled causing some of the passengers to become irate, the passenger said.

Aside from the Philippine-bound passengers, among those affected by the canceled flight include a handful of tourist on a connecting flight, a local who was supposed to fly out on a medical referral, and some sailors who were forced to stay on Saipan at their own expense.

Cape Air did offer token assistance, the passenger said, in the form of meal vouchers, but no other financial assistance was given to those who were delayed or stranded.

The passenger said they were not told as to when the flights will resume, and instead, Cape Air promised to inform them as soon as flights become available. ***(With reports from Joel Pinaroc)***

‘Grandpa Ping’ found guilty of sexual assault

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

After deliberating less than an hour yesterday morning, the jury reached a unanimous verdict finding Jose Ilo Santos, also known as “Grandpa Ping,” guilty of all two charges for sexually assaulting a then-7-year-old girl at his house in Tanapag in 2011.

The six jurors, including former representative Ramon Basa, deliberated for an hour on Tuesday and resumed their deliberations yesterday at 8:15am.

The jurors found the 63-year-old Santos guilty of two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

Santos remained calm when a court staff read the verdict. The victim, who is now 11 years old, was in tears when her mother cried and hugged her shortly after the verdict was read.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who presided over the jury trial, set the sentencing for Jan. 13, 2015 at 9am.

Camacho ordered the Office of Adult Probation to prepare a pre-sentence investigation report on or before Dec. 11, 2014.

Santos remains in jail after failing to post bail.

Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley in an interview said she’s just very impressed with the people of the CNMI on the jury today.

“I think they came to the only and the just conclusion,” Foley said. Assistant attorney general Emily Cohen assisted Foley at the trial.

Chief public defender Douglas Hartig and assistant public defender Michael Sato, counsel for Santos, refused to comment.

Chief prosecutor Leonardo Rapadas said they’re glad that the jury looked at all the evidence and that they have a strong victim.

“We want to make sure that the victims have a voice,” Rapadas said.

The chief prosecutor said when they help sexual assault victims they assure that they have someone to have their back.

“We hope that victims come out. And we hope [this] sends a message to more victims out there that they need to be strong,” he said.

Rapadas said there are a lot of organizations that help victims to be strong.

The second retrial commenced on Monday. The prosecution called four witnesses, including the victim. The defense did not call any witness.

In October 2012, the jury found Santos guilty of the same charges.

In March 2013, Camacho sentenced the defendant to the maximum of 60 years in prison, to be served without the possibility of parole.

Santos appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court.

In December 2014, the high court then ruled that the trial court abused its discretion by permitting the victim advocate to accompany the girl at the witness stand. The high court reversed the convictions and ordered a new trial.

A retrial was held in March 2015. But Camacho declared a mistrial after the jury was left with only five members.

The girl testified on Tuesday how the then-60-year-old Santos sexually assaulted her three times in separate incidents when she was 7 years old.

DURING FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO US TERRITORY

Jewell underscores commitment to Guam

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell yesterday concluded an official Asia-Pacific trip with a visit to the U.S. Territory of Guam, where she met with Gov. Eddie Calvo and addressed local business leaders, underscoring the vital importance of Guam to the Pacific region and the United States.

“Guam is critically important to the United States and a leader throughout the Pacific region,” said Jewell. “There’s no substitute for getting a chance to see first-hand the beauty of the island, to spend time with the community, and to discuss issues that are important to Guam’s economy. The United States is proud to work with the leaders of Guam to continue support for a strong and resilient island.”

Accompanied by Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia’aina, Jewell also visited the War in the Pacific National Historical Park, received a Department of Defense briefing on the Guam military buildup as part of the President’s Asia-Pacific rebalance, and visited the Guam Memorial Hospital.

With a population of about 165,000 people, Guam is the largest and southernmost of the Mariana Islands chain, which is about 3,850 miles southwest of Hawaii and 1,200 miles southeast of Japan. The Marianas also include the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Guam has been a U.S. Territory since 1898; the CNMI, which has a population of about 54,000, joined the U.S. family in 1975.

The trip was Jewell’s first official visit to Guam, which serves as the regional transportation, communication and educational hub of Micronesia and hosts important U.S. naval and air bases that are being upgraded as part of the Obama Administration’s rebalance of U.S. forward deployed forces in the Asia-Pacific region.

Among the major issues discussed during her meetings with Calvo were assistance to Guam to mitigate the impact of Freely Associated State citizens who now reside in Guam; initiatives to facilitate greater tourism to the island; and joint climate change adaptation and resiliency strategies.

During her remarks to Guam community and business leaders, Jewell announced that the Office of Insular Areas will establish a “One Stop Center” in Guam before the end of the year. The center is designed to help ameliorate the impacts from the more than 17,000 individuals who have immigrated to Guam under the U.S. Compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. With new seed funding of $250,000 through the Office of Insular Areas, the Center will coordinate and share governmental and non-governmental job training, education, and health awareness opportunities for citizens of the Freely Associated States.

Jewell also announced an additional $68,000 grant for the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Guam Leadership Collaborative Initiative to support nonprofit programs that strengthen families, expand education and training opportunities, and engage young people in outdoor activities.

Regarding climate change, Jewell noted that impacts are felt more keenly in the islands of the Pacific, threatening the existence of homelands, and she commended Calvo for his national and international leadership on the issue. Interior is engaged in several joint initiatives with island leaders to build resilience and meet adaptation challenges.

During her meeting with Department of Defense officials, Jewell was briefed on the status of the ongoing military build-up on the island and proposed relocation of about 5,000 U.S. Marines and 1,300 dependents from Japan to Guam. The base upgrades on Guam are scheduled to invest an estimated $8.7 billion in Defense installation construction on the 212-square mile island over the next decade.

At the War in the Pacific National Historic Park, the Secretary laid a wreath in commemoration of the bravery and sacrifices of all those who participated in the Pacific Theater of World War II, including the indigenous Chamorro people of Guam, many of whom suffered starvation, torture and death during the Japanese occupation of the island from December 1941 to July 1944. A unit of the National Park Service, the Park encompasses beachheads and battle sites secured by U.S. Marines during the recapture of Guam from Japanese forces in July 1944.

The secretary’s visit to Guam capped her official visits to Vietnam and China where she discussed the Obama Administration’s commitment to work with them on combating the illegal wildlife trade. She also attended events in Beijing to promote travel and tourism to America’s public lands.

As secretary of the Interior, Jewell is responsible for overall coordination of federal policy for the U.S. insular areas, advocating for the islands within the Federal Government, overseeing the distribution of appropriated funds for island territories, and administering U.S. financial assistance for the Freely Associated States. ***(PR)***

14 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged 14 Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites are American Memorial Park, Garapan Fishing Dock, San Jose Beach, CK DIST #4 Lally, Da-ichi Hotel, Garapan Beach Drain, Civic Center Beach, San Antonio Lift, Hafadai Beach Hotel, Garapan Beach, Sugar Dock, Hafa-Adai Drainage, Chalan Laulau, and CK DIST #2 Drain.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan’s recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP15-DPL-070
SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 28, 2015 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“TO COMPLETE A CNMI COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC LAND USE PLAN UPDATE FOR ROTA, TINIAN, SAIPAN AND THE NORTHERN ISLANDS. A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS”

The complete Scope of Work may be picked up at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive during regular working hours.

A **pre-proposal meeting** is scheduled on **July 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., local time** at the DPL, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan. All **questions** regarding this project must be submitted in writing by email to **Pedro A. Tenorio, Secretary of Public Lands** at **pete.tenorio@dpl.gov.mp** no later than 4:30 p.m., local time, July 17, 2015.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ PEDRO A. TENORIO
Secretary of Public Lands

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP: RFP15-CHCC/CGC-109
SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 03, 2015 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“EVALUATION SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION, COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER”

Copies of the RFP packet may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, July 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor, Captain George F. Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (May 7, 2015)

II. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM (S)
1. GPPC (North Seaplane Ramp) – Option to Renew
2. Saipan Stevedore Company Inc. – Option to Renew
3. Huang Shun Corporation
4. Saipan Industrial Gas Inc. (SIGI) – Request for Assignment
5. Supplemental Budget Request
   a. Airport
   b. Seaport
6. SIA ARFF Building Roof Repairs Award
7. TIA Sewer System Construction Management Services Award

III. PUBLIC COMMENT
IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION
V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman, Board of Directors

July 8, 2015

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries to Hold Public Hearings on the Proposal to Revise the ESA Listing of Green Turtles in Guam and the CNMI

NOAA FISHERIES

This U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced on March 23, 2015 that it will open a 90-day public comment period for the proposed rule to revise the global green sea turtle listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) into 11 Distinct Population Segments (DPSs). Today, we announce an extension of the comment period to July 27, 2015 and additional public hearings. The Central West Pacific DPS includes Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The proposal would change these turtles’ status from threatened to endangered. This revision would lead to more tailored and effective management of the species and its diverse habitats across the globe. The extension and hearings will allow all interested parties additional time and opportunity to comment on the proposed rule. The FWS and NOAA will hold public hearings in Guam and Saipan during this time.

The public hearings will be held at:

University of Guam
Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building
Anthony Leon Guerrero
Multi-Purpose Room 129
UOG Station
Mangilao, Guam 96923
Times: Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Public Hearing 6-8 pm
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2015

Multi-Purpose Center (Saipan)
Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan
Times: Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Public Hearing 6-8 pm
Date: Monday, July 13, 2015

For More Information contact Joy Browning at 808/792-9400

Kanoa Resort
Saipan

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Maintenance Manager (1)
Qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent. Minimum of six (6) years experience in hotel maintenance plus 2 years in supervisory level. Able to supervise, manage and coordinate the activities of mechanics, installers and repairers. Good judgment, decision making skills, and time management skills. Prefer some technical courses. Must know how to read floor plan and electrical diagram. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Front Office Manager (1)
Qualifications: Preferably a college graduate with a Bachelor degree in Hospitality or Tourism Management; a minimum of two years work experience as Front Office Supervisor in a hotel of significant volume. Ability to read, analyze and interpret journals, financial reports and legal documents. Ability to write letters, memorandums or conceptualizing hotel's objectives. Ability to effectively present information to top management and employees, in groups or individually. Ability to speak, write and read in the English language fluently. Fluency in Japanese is an advantage. Ability to calculate figures and amounts such as discounts, commissions, proportions, percentages, area, circumstances, and volume, and analyze such information. Ability to define problems, collect data, establish facts, and draw valid conclusions. Comprehensive knowledge of business management, financial reporting and productivity requirements; Proficient in Microsoft Office program and Fidelio System software. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Electrician (3)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum of five (5) years work experience required. Provide access for future maintenance and avoid unreliable wiring, consistent with verification and electrical codes, and other related duties as assigned. Capable of reading schematic diagram, and electrical symbols, knowledgeable on industrial electricity, circuit breakers, switches and controls. Must to work in a flexible way that allows for changes in assignments and priorities depending upon identified needs of the department. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Landscaping Worker (1)
Qualifications: Minimum of 2 to 3 years previous work experience. Cultivates and cares for ornamental plants and installs floral displays indoor or outdoor settings through performance of any combination of following duties as directed by supervisory personnel. Able to work a variable schedule on occasion including weekends.

Sous Chef (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma; a graduate from independent and vocational cooking schools, professional culinary institutes or a college degree in appropriate field or equivalent. Must have at least four (4) years experience in a five-star Hotel, Club, or Resort. Supervising-chef assistant Supervises and coordinates activities of cooks and other workers engaged in preparing and cooking foodstuffs. Assumes responsibility for kitchen in absence of EXECUTIVE CHEF. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

International Cook (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma; graduate from independent and vocational cooking schools, professional culinary institutes or a college degree in appropriate field or equivalent. At least three (3) years experience in a five-star Hotel, Club, or Resort. Must be able to prepare, season, and cook a wide range of international dishes such as soups, meats, vegetables, salads, entrees, and desserts in the Resort. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Baker (1)
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. Some previous work-related skill, knowledge or experience preferably in a hotel. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Demi Chef (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent, or postsecondary instruction from vocational schools. Minimum of four (4) years work experience as a Demi-Chef preferably in hotel. Comprehensive knowledge of kitchen hygiene practices and occupational health and safety standards is essential. Supervise and coordinates activities of kitchen operation and personnel. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Cafeteria Attendant (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma or GED certificate. Little or no previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. Must facilitate food service. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

A/C Refrigeration Mechanic/Technician (1)
Qualifications: Require post-secondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges that offer programs in air-conditioning and refrigeration or and associate's degree. Completion of an apprenticeship program or two (2) to four (4) years of experience. Able to install and repair industrial and commercial refrigeration systems. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Assistant Maintenance Manager (1)
Qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent. Minimum of six (6) years experience in hotel maintenance plus 2 years in supervisory level. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation. Preferably some technical courses. Must know how to use Excel and Microsoft Word. Must know how to read floor plan and electrical diagram and understand centralized air-conditioning system. Adheres to OSHA safety standards that are applicable for the safe performance of job. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Powerhouse Mechanic (Power Plant) (1)
Qualifications: Require postsecondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges, and/or associate's degree. Completion of an apprenticeship program or 2 to 4 years of experience. Perform routine maintenance or make repairs to mechanical, electrical, or electronic equipment in power plants. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Pool Attendant (1)
Qualifications: High School graduate with at least two (2) years work experience as a Pool Attendant. Knowledgeable on some sports and in organizing group activities. Must be knowledgeable with the use of chemicals for the pool. Certified CPR, First Aid and Lifeguard. Willing to work a variable schedule on occasion, including weekends.

General Maintenance Worker/Repairer (2)
Qualifications: Minimum of two (2) years work experience as a Handyman preferably in a hotel or in a similar large building or complex with central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Possession of a valid driver's license is essential. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Income Auditor Supervisor (1)
Qualifications: A bachelor's degree in accounting or a related field. Minimum of five (5) years progressive experience in night audit/income audit operations, preferably in a hotel. Examine and analyze accounting records to determine financial status of establishment and prepare financial reports concerning operating procedures. Must also have experience with inventories to include, but not limited to F&B, Dry goods and Housekeeping cleaning and guest supplies. Willing to work a variable schedule on occasion, including weekends.

Housekeeper (5)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum 6 months work experience preferably in a hotel. Must be able to speak and write in English. Ability to speak basic foreign language is a plus. Good customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Tailor/Dressmaker (2)
Qualifications: Minimum of Three (3) years work experience as a dressmaker preferably in a hotel. Must be able to think creatively. Is able to design, make draperies, repair or fit garments. Must have an interest in fashion, color and style. Must have ability to work quickly, accurately and independently in a fast-paced environment. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Housekeeping Supervisor (4)
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. A few months to one year of supervisory/managerial capacity, in a five-star hotel, club, or resort. Preferably some basic knowledge of the hotel industry. Must directly supervise and coordinate work activities of cleaning personnel in the hotel. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

IT Tech Support Manager (1)
Qualifications: Any combination of education and training equivalent to possession of a bachelor's degree in computer science, information engineering, computer associates or other related areas. Must have at least five (5) years working experience. Experience in all areas of local and wide area networks management and administration including system configuration, setup, troubleshooting, implementation, and user support. Experience installing and supporting Microsoft server technologies. Working knowledge of local and wide area networks (LAN/WAN), Internet, e-mail systems, telecommunications and data communications, standard operating systems, software packages, and software. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Night Auditor (2)
Qualifications: College Diploma or Equivalent certificate, in a hotel or resort. Must have at least two (2) years experience in hotel internal auditing. Must be willing to work flexible night duty/graveyard schedule, weekends, holidays and extended work hours. Understanding of business processes and work flow design. Strong financial analytical background and must be knowledgeable on Microsoft office applications and other software are essential. Good communication and interpersonal skills are necessary. Also responsible in handling of company general funds. Ability to pay close attention to detail with a high degree of accuracy, adapt to changes in work environment, work as assignments and/or changes in priorities.

Food and Beverage Wait Staff (6)
Qualifications: High school diploma/GED preferred. At least 6 months serving experience required or 6 months current hosting experience. Restaurant and Beverages experience preferred. Proven knowledge of Micros or equivalent computer software and cash check, credit card handling procedures required. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Food and Beverage Wait Staff (Banquet) (2)
Qualifications: High school diploma/GED preferred. At least 5 years experience required in banquet and/or related field. Restaurant and Beverages experience preferred. Proven knowledge of Micros or equivalent computer software and cash check, credit card handling procedures required. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Food and Beverage Supervisor (3)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent or training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree. Minimum two (2) years work experience as F&B supervisor preferably in a hotel. Must be able to directly supervise and coordinate activities of workers engaged in preparing and serving. Strong customer service skills and people oriented. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Guest Services Agent (1)
Qualifications: High School diploma or GED certificate. Must have minimum of 2 years work experience in providing quality customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for service and evaluation of customer satisfaction. Must be able to handle customer complaints with efficiency. Must have multitasking skills, be detailed-oriented, and be able to solve problems in order to effectively deal with internal and external customers. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Cook (1)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent with three (3) years work experience preferably in a hotel. Basic culinary skills and good hygiene knowledge is essential. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Reservations Agent (1)
Qualifications: Preferably high school graduate. Must have minimum two (2) years of experience, in Sales and Marketing or Tourism, and or equivalent years of relevant experience in hotel industry. Know how to operate office equipments like fax/copier machine, telephone, computer (knowledge in Fidelio system is an advantage). Able to handle, arrange the agents or guests needs and complaints efficiently. Must have excellent communications, good quality customer service, and multitasking skills are a must. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applicants must be submitted not later than July 14, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 2, 2015

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

3 arrested for allegedly smoking 'ice' in car

A complaint of a stolen vehicle led to the recovery of the car and the arrest of three persons, including the car's owner, for alleged possession and smoking methamphetamine or "ice."

Nick Valeriano Reyes Jr., 30, was arrested in Dandan on Tuesday night for illegal possession of controlled substance.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a $25,000 cash bail.

Preliminary hearing will be on July 16 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for Reyes.

Reyes and the victim's daughter and a male friend were arrested last June 24 for allegedly smoking "ice." They were subsequently released, but Reyes was arrested again on Tuesday for illegal possession of controlled substance.

Saipan Tribune opted to withhold the names of the two persons until charges are filed against them.

Police detective Rudolfo Saures Hermosilla Jr. stated in his report that police officers responded to a residence in San Antonio last June 23 after a man complained that his 2013 Toyota Yaris was stolen.

At 12:17am the following day, a patrol officer located the vehicle at the Jose Mart in San Jose and arrested Reyes who was the operator.

The officer also arrested the car's two passengers—daughter of the vehicle's owner and a man.

According to the officer, all occupants of the car admitted to smoking "ice" prior to them going to San Jose Mart.

The officer escorted the car to the Department of Public Safety's impound lot for safekeeping.

Hermosilla said that, last June 26, he met with the car owner and released the car to him.

Hermosilla said before releasing the car, he observed a black pouch on the passenger seat.

The owner denied that he or her daughter owns the black pouch so Hermosilla seized it and stored it at DPS for safekeeping.

Hermosilla then conducted further investigation and learned from the two occupants of the car that the pouch belongs to Reyes and that they believed that there is "ice" and drug paraphernalia inside it.

Hermosilla said a review of a video footage from a motel, where the car owner's daughter brought Reyes and the male friend, showed that Reyes was holding the pouch.

Hermossila said that, last Tuesday he obtained a search warrant for the pouch from Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

He said he opened the pouch and found 0.03 gross grams of crystalline residue in Ziploc baggies, drug paraphernalia, and some items.

Hermossila said he tested the residue that came out presumptive positive of "ice."

The car owner's daughter told police that last June 23 at 10pm, she was driving the car along Dandan main road when Reyes and their male friend flagged her down.

She said the two asked her to drop them to a motel in Susupe. She said Reyes took out a glass pipe and burned "ice." ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Java Bakery to close

Java Bakery and Cafe will be closing this Friday after failing to come to an amicable agreement with the management of Paradise Hotel.

Owner Sara Fryling announced the café's closure on a media statement last Monday.

"Java Bakery and Café will no longer operate at the Paradise Hotel and is not slated for relocation. The café could not come to an amicable agreement with Paradise Hotel," she said.

After many struggles to stay afloat, Fryling decided to take a break from the restaurant business.

She said all bakery equipment will be sold this Saturday, July 11, from 7am to 10am at the café location. All inquiries should be directed to Fryling at 287-5282.

Fryling also stated that she is grateful for every single customer the bakery had—their loyalty and enthusiasm fueled the bakery for more than a year and is a huge inspiration.

The bakery and its staff will bid a fond farewell to all this Friday, July 10, their last day of business.

"We are truly thankful for the loyalty and love Saipan sent our way. Java Bakery was an amazing experience, and we wish all the best for our customers," said Fryling. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Meeting of SILC rescheduled

The Statewide Independent Living Council's third general membership meeting scheduled for July 9, from 1pm to 3pm at the Rota Bay View Hotel is postponed due to aircraft mechanical issue.

Please take notice that this meeting has been rescheduled for July 23, 2015—same time and place. Agenda remains unchanged.

For more information, please contact: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation P.O. Box 501521, Saipan, MP 96950, Navy Hill, Buildings N2 & N4 Voice: 322-6537/8, TTY: 322-6449, fax: 322-6536, email: nmidir@ovrgov.net, website: www.ovrgov.net. ***(PR)***

Attorney general warns against price gouging

As Tropical Storm Nangka approaches the Northern Mariana Islands following the heels of Tropical Storm Chan-Hom which has moved away from the Commonwealth, consumers should be aware that unscrupulous retailers and businesses may try to profit illegally from the storms.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan sternly warns retailers that the Consumer Protection Act makes it unlawful for any business to engage in price gouging. The Attorney General explains, "price gouging occurs when a business increases prices based on the shortage of goods caused by a natural disaster or any other emergency." He added, "the Office of the Attorney General will prosecute, both criminally and civilly, any business that engages in price gouging."

Contact Carla Torres, PIO of the Office of the Attorney General at 237-7500, or email Assistant Attorney General James Zarones at jzarones@dps.gov.mp for more information on price gouging. ***(PR)***

2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures set

The 2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures will be held Aug. 22 and 29 and Sept. 5, 12, 19, and 26 at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan and will celebrate the cultural diversity of the Northern Mariana Islands, with special emphasis on the indigenous cultures of Micronesia. Cultural groups are encouraged to contact Marianas Visitors Authority Community Projects Specialist Ryan Calvo at rcalvo@mymarianas.com or 664-3210 to participate. ***(PR)***

Air Force to conduct training at FDM, WA-517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on July 9 from 7pm to 11:55pm

The Air Force will also conduct training at Warning Area 517 July 9 from 7pm to 11:55pm.

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. All vessels are advised to remain clear of W-517 south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

BSI artist registration open until July 12

Summer is here and in the spirit of the 70th Liberation Festivities, Best Sunshine International, Ltd. is welcoming CNMI citizens of all ages to submit artistic interpretations of the future of Saipan for the Discover the Future of Saipan Art Competition. As the focus of the artwork is the future, young artists' submissions are welcome and encouraged. Registration will be open until July 12. Artwork must depict the future of Saipan and must contain local elements of native hospitality and/or elements of the CNMI tourism industry.

The top 3 entries that receive the most votes by the end of business on July 17, 2015 (5pm) will be considered the winning entries and will receive cash prizes for back to school expenses or art supplies. The top 10 to 20 entries will also have the opportunity to be featured in a high visibility campaign. All entries and registration forms with must be emailed to bsiartcompetition@gmail.com. You can also pick up artist registration forms at the Mariana Business Plaza, Room 204. ***(PR)***

Century Hotel

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to apply for the following vacant positions

Position: (1) BARTENDER
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent with minimum 2 years work experience in the preparation of mixed cocktails required. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential. Able to work flexible hours including evenings and/or weekends

Applications can be obtained and submitted at the Security Office at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than July 10, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Email: commonwealthcasinocommission@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: July 9, 2015 Closing Date: July 20, 2015

The Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission") announces the following Job Vacancies for immediate recruitment:

	POSITION	DIVISION	SALARY RANGE	ANNOUNCEMENT NO.
1.	SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR	Administration	$33,000 - $38,000	CCC-2015-A
2.	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	Administration	$25,000 - $30,000	CCC-2015-B
3.	MANAGER – Division Head	Administration	$40,000 - $45,000	CCC-2015-C
4.	ACCOUNTANT IV	Administration - Admin Services	$30,000 - $35,000	CCC-2015-D
5.	HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICER	Administration - Admin Services	$25,000 - $30,000	CCC-2015-E
6.	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	Administration - Admin Services	$17,000 - $22,000	CCC-2015-F
7.	INSPECTOR II (2 positions)	Administration – Permit & Licensing	$27,000 - $32,000	CCC-2015-G
8.	INSPECTOR I (2 positions)	Administration – Permit & Licensing	$25,000 - $30,000	CCC-2015-H
9.	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (2 positions)	Administration–Permit & Licensing	$15,000 - $18,000	CCC-2015-I
10.	MANAGER – Division Head	Enforcement & Investigations	$40,000 - $45,000	CCC-2015-J
11.	INVESTIGATOR–Senior Level (2 positions)	Enforcement & Investigations	$30,000 - $35,000	CCC-2015-K
12.	ENFORCEMENT OFFICER II (3 positions)	Enforcement & Surveillance	$27,000 - $32,000	CCC-2015-L
13.	ENFORCEMENT OFFICER I (3 positions)	Enforcement & Surveillance	$23,000 - $28,000	CCC-2015-M
14.	MANAGER – Division Head	Audit & Compliance	$60,000 - $65,000	CCC-2015-N
15.	AUDITOR – Financial Audit	Audit & Compliance	$39,000 - $44,000	CCC-2015-O
16.	AUDITOR – Technology Audit	Audit & Compliance	$39,000 - $44,000	CCC-2015-P
17.	FINANCIAL ANALYST	Audit & Compliance	$37,000 - $42,000	CCC-2015-Q

- Salary: Actual salary level will depend on the applicant's education, experience, and other related qualifications.
- Location: Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI").
- Benefits: Basic CNMI government employment fringe benefits.
- Exempted Positions: These positions are exempted from the CNMI Civil Service system per P.L. 18-56.

Requirements: A. CNMI Government Application for Employment (OPM-03)
B. Resume with accompanying educational and professional credentials & documentations
C. Police Clearance (recent)
D. Copy of your Driver's License or other form of Valid Identification

Education and training claimed under items 24 (A) through (H) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by an official school transcript, diploma, or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

The Commonwealth Casino Commission is an equal employment opportunity employer. The CCC's EEO policy is to ensure that all employment decisions are made on a non-discriminatory basis, and without regard to sex, race, color, age, national origin, religion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation or belief, or any other status protected by applicable national, federal, state or local law. Please be informed that prior to a job offer, you are required to undergo a pre-employment drug test pursuant to the Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Policy, Part V.C. of the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations. The Casino Commission may also require additional criminal background checks and investigations on some positions.

Application Forms can be picked up at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). For information on the POSITION DESCRIPTIONS and Requirements, please contact Ms. Ruth Ann Sakisat at 233-1857 or at commonwealthcasinocommission@gmail.com. Interested persons should submit their Employment Application Forms along with supporting documents to the Commonwealth Casino Commission Office, Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950.

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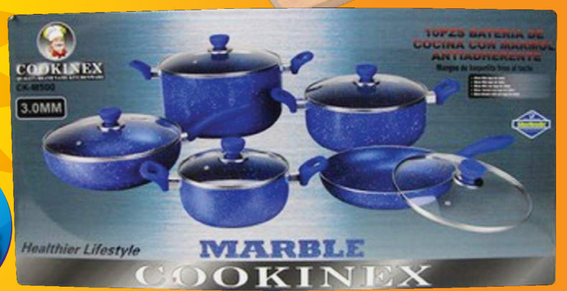

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Zero Pressure Memory Pillow $12.95

Everest Deluxe Laptop Backpack $32.95

12 Pack Towel Set $4.95

AT&T 2 Handset Cordless Answering System $75.95

Car Mats 4pc 72.5x49.5cm/ 49x47cm $11.95

ZL Welcome Door Mat $4.95

4 Seasons Fly Ribbon 4pk Raid $0.95

Flex Seal $15.95

Husky 5pc Metric Universal Ratchet Wrench Set $45.95

Wormgear Soutn Bend 5ft 6 inch Fishing Combo $15.95

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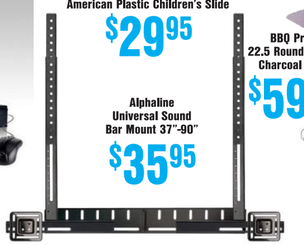
CCTV Security Recording System $119.95

Booster Cable, 2M $5.95

Daisy Model 74 Air Gun $59.95

Alphaline Universal Sound Bar Mount 37"-90" $35.95



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Opinion

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Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXV, Issue No. 135

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

The International Criminal Court is handcuffed

A bizarre drama that played out in South Africa recently underscores just how difficult it is to bring the world's bad actors to justice.

The International Criminal Court at The Hague has issued two arrest warrants accusing Sudan President Omar Hassan Ahmed Bashir of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide dating from his actions a decade ago overseeing Sudan's genocide in Darfur. So on Monday, when Bashir was in South Africa—a signatory to the ICC—the country's High Court ordered the government to keep him from leaving while it considered demands by human rights groups that he be arrested on the ICC's warrants.

The government insisted that Bashir, who was in the country for a meeting of the African Union, enjoyed diplomatic immunity. While it haggled with the human rights groups in court, Bashir jetted back to Sudan from a South African military base. The court ultimately ruled that he should have been arrested, and demanded an accounting by the government for why it ignored the court's order.

The incident involves regional African politics and South African constitutional issues, and will probably echo there for some time. But it also reverberates globally. Bashir, the only head of state currently under ICC indictment, has moved freely among those African nations whose leaders dismiss the ICC as a racist institution because it has, to date, indicted only Africans. Under its charter, the ICC can only bring cases involving member nations in which the legal system has failed. (Despite that, the United States, fearing prosecution of soldiers and other agents of the government, has not joined.) It can also take up cases referred by the U.N. Security Council, although vetoes by the five permanent members have added a layer of international politics to the meting out of justice—China and Russia, for instance, have blocked attempts to bring a case against Syrian President Bashar Assad.

After more than a dozen years and $1 billion, the ICC has brought just 22 cases and has obtained just two convictions. The court has no police force to arrest those it indicts, and, as became clear in South Africa this week, its credibility is so undermined that some member states ignore its warrants.

The idea of an international tribunal as a court of last resort for cases involving war crimes and horrific human rights abuses is appealing, and the tribunals set up to punish atrocities in the former Yugoslavia, Rwanda and Cambodia have worked to some effect. Unfortunately, the ICC, which has a broader mandate, has proved to be expensive and, so far, ineffective. The victims of inhumanity deserve better.

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Finana`gue gi manatatte

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Tiempu yan sinparat na animu ta gasta para tana` fan eskuela yan dottrina famaguonta gi hafa tunas, dinanche na chechu` echu tautau, yine`ase` yan inasi`i`.

Kumu manmauleg na kilisyanu, esta ta asi`i` ginen gobietnu ni malabidaña. Lau i para uma`asi`i` ni sentensiaña pot inisaguen lai taya huli`e lehitimu rason na para umachogue sin kabales na inestudia haf` sustansian ayu na disision. Kumeke ilegña na mauleg makomiten chechu` kriminat sa` siempre un` ma`asi`e taimanu masusede na semana. Este na rekueddu para tana`e` famaguonta?

Yangin pot malañgu, ke pues kasse dinanche u fan masotta todu presineru ni manmalañgu lokue`. Haf' mohon? Ha komple i gobietnu atoridatña `nai ha asi`i` i ginen gobietnu. Gi mismu tiempu sumen lache na mensahe ha pega gi hinasson memegaiña gi makomiten chechu` kriminat gi mas tatkilu` na offisinan publiku guine.

I Kusinan Nana

Sumasaga i amiguhu Magoo gi kanton hagas gualu` mame as Perdido. Paupau i kafe gi aire na oga`an gi hilu` foggun guafe. Ha koneyu` tatte gi hagas kusinan i amku` gi Lali Fo`.

Mi-atburotu foggun hayu. Debi un` ñgayu pot lumenos un` biahe gi semana. Debi un` totne ya u fañila de demunos kau chata`an.

Siempre un` eyag mañagua guafe gigon loglug i ninalagun hinegsa`. Sotta ya i pinigan unina` masan maipen masahalom hinegsa` mismu. Mañge` hinegsa` ke stove elektrisida yan rice cooker.

Usun este na patte gi kusinan nana man-a`atahgue mañelu kada tinilaikan semana. Pues siempre un` eyag muna`lagu putahe siha fuetsau. Ginen foggun guafe tutuhon megai gi man-acha`idathu guihe na tiempu. Trabiha ti humahalom otru siha che`chu` familia. Lau añgoghu na siempre un` tuñgu` usun foggun guafe.

I amku` fumana`gueyu` lamegai na putahen totche. Pumalu ineyaghu ginen otru man-mauleg siha kusuneru. Era sessu man-ayudayu` gi kusina gi preparasion neñkano` para finagpu` nobena, bautismu, primet komuñion, konfitmasion yan fandañgu. Ti mapot na cho`chu` kumu un` prekura umeyag deste mesklan na`ye siha tat kumu plimenta, asiga, harina, ahus, siboyas yan otru siha na`ye. Sumen presisu lokue` un` tuñgu` usun guafe piot gi bandan manalagon katne.

Ayu mas na preparasion neñkanu` debi un` gof adahe i guihan, uhañg, pañglau, ayuyu, mahoñgañg, nosnus, yan gamsun. I tinilaikan presetbasion niha gi halom ais sumen presisu esta i mismu oran para umana` lagu.

Umeyagyu` lokue` man-eskomen mai`es, atmayas, tumitiyas gi hilu` komat, yan todu klasen saibog, tamales yan atulen te`ug. Mauleg maluloghu ni amku` guine siha na putahe bastara ke manlalanchu ham guihe na tiempu. Kontodu mamunu` ga`ga` yan mañuñgat babue estake inna` masa gi fina` fritada in` tiñgu` chumogue.

Los uttimu kulan libianu muna`lagu gi feggun hayu dispues de bira birada gi halom kusinan nana. Magahet na sumen metgot lokue` na magnitu i lamasan nana.

Inapagat man-amku`

Megai asuda`hu man-kabilosu yan tomtum na man-amku` ni huhuñgog man-adiñgan antes. I sustansian fino` niha gi tomtum na dobladan palabra siha `nai huli`e` taduñg hinasson niha.

Huli`e` gi halom dinaña` mamaisen saina na ti libianu unna` kontentu i dos saina gi finaisen para un` kone`guan ni hagan niha. Tat asuntu ti madiskuattisa gi nina` siñan i lahe sumupotta i hagan niha dispues de ha diñgu pettan sanmena pot umakamu`.

`An guaha dinida pues maplasu i lahe. `Nai klaru na felis para hinanau i dos patgon mabendise ayu na finaisen. I pueñgen komplimientu na magutus i uttimu finihu umakamu`. Deste ayu na pueñge mas bibu che`chu` fandañgu. Sumen na`magof na okasion.

Huli`e` lokue` huntan man-ma`gas i señgsoñg gi kamalin Lali Fo`. Todu man-adiñgan taduñg na mensahe yan sustansiau na intension maplanta gi lamasa. `An guaha dididi` chinatkomprende pues ma-ulus mas i asuntu estake ma-establese inakonfotma gi todu.

Gi megai na konbetsasion mame yan si nanahu, magahet na humide na inapagat mafattu kumu bendision. Lau kada ratu ha repite "cha`mu fandadage" sa` i dakun tutuhon saki. Todu pot todu dañkulu na bintaha umekuñgog gi mañaina-ta. Dispues `nai kulan mafanu`e hau haf` taduñg sustansian finu` niha.

Otru siha asuntota

Gi megai na kantan antes, repara pindeduñg palabra siha sa` sumen sustansiau i mensahe. I sumen tomtum na usun dobladan palabra hasan ta huñgog gi nuebu siha na tinige` mafanana`an kantan Chamorro. Na ti kada kanta gai estoria? Haf` `nau na estoria yan kau dinanche na palabra yan sunidu `nai un` pega? Kantan tanu` pat un` sablasus matransladan otru materiat ni mafanana`an konbiñientamiente "adaptation?"

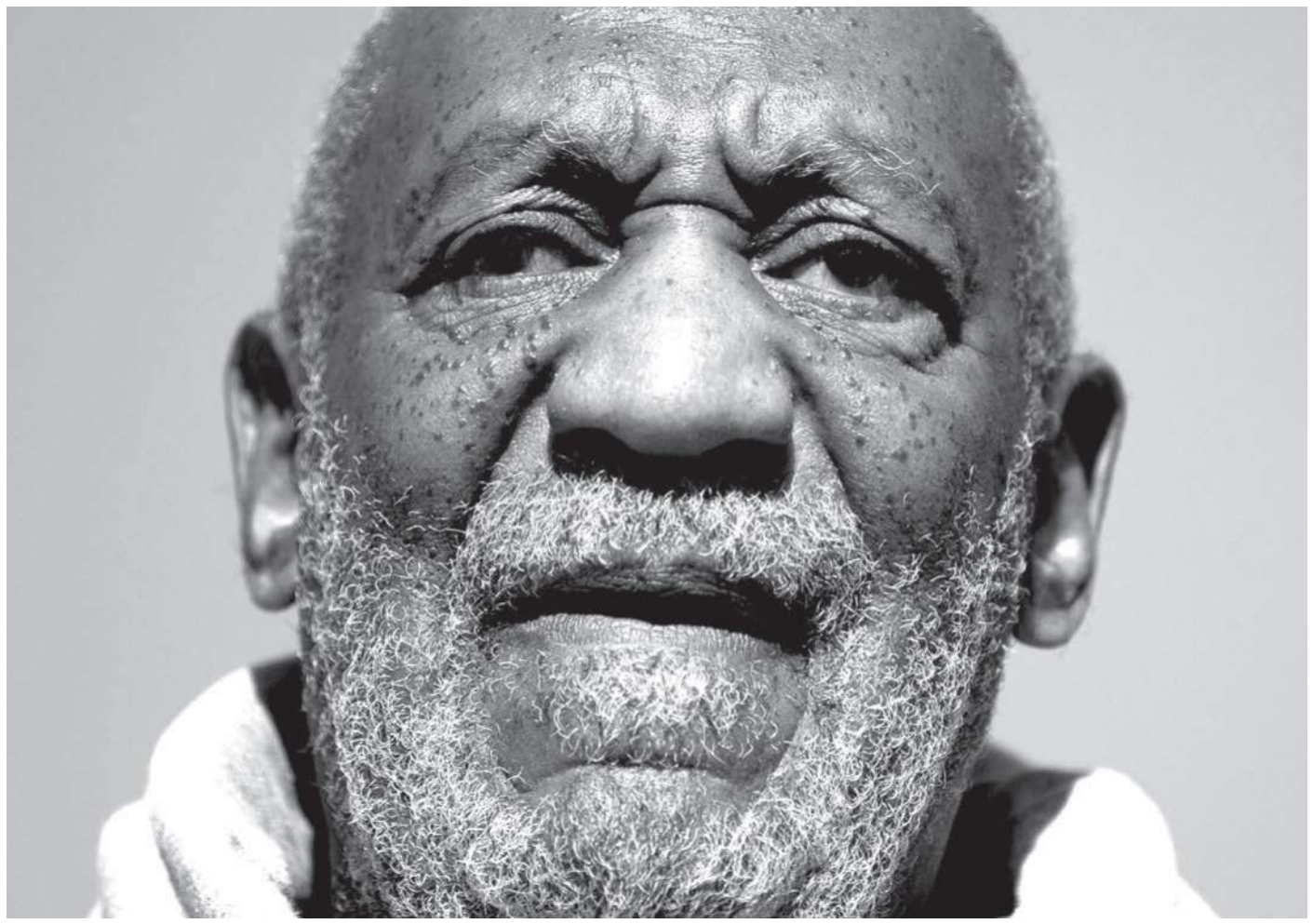
■■■

Makat hu komprende heñiun natibu gi aronsadan lache na sentimientun yine`ase`. Pot ihemplo, `nai ta huñgog na dimalas si fulanu ayu ha` tahuhuñgog i minaulegña. Lau klaru na mamunu` si pindehu `nai hahatme un` lugat poker. Manu guine na patte `nai in` seda` minaulegña?

Pot sensian kilisyanu, bai` dispensague` lau ti huli`e` haf` minaulegña ha kontradise tinagu` i Saina, "Chamu` famumunu`". Bira halom i asuntu giya hagu mismu: Yangin patgonmu pat asaguamu pininu`, mauleg ennau na chechu` satbahe gi otru kilisyanu?

Focus

Bill Cosby controversy: A decade in the making



AP

In this Nov. 11, 2014, file photo, comedian and Navy veteran Bill Cosby speaks during a Veterans Day ceremony in Philadelphia.

The sexual assault allegations that resurfaced against Bill Cosby first became public in 2005 after a former employee of his alma mater, Temple University, claimed he had drugged and abused her a year earlier at his suburban Philadelphia home. Testimony in that case was unsealed Monday after court action by The Associated Press. Here's how the controversy over the allegations, some dating to the 1960s, has unfolded:

Andrea Constand tells police in her native Ontario on Jan. 13, 2005, that Cosby assaulted her a year earlier at his mansion in Cheltenham, Pennsylvania. She said he invited her home after a restaurant dinner, gave her pills for stress and tension, then helped her to a sofa when she became dizzy and sick. She recalled him touching her breast and placing her hand on his penis, and said she awoke with her clothing in disarray and bra undone. She said she drove herself home and decided not to report to police what happened due to Cosby's fame and her position as a Temple women's basketball administrator. Instead, she said she contacted a lawyer who deals with sexual assaults.

Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce L. Castor Jr. decides after a monthlong investigation that there's not enough "credible and admissible evidence," a year after the alleged crime, to prove any charges. Castor adds that he won't divulge details to avoid tainting a possible civil action by Constand, and says "Much exists in this investigation that could be used to portray persons on both sides of the issue in a less than flattering light."

Cosby's lawyer says the comedian "looks forward to moving on with his life," and Cosby makes his only published comments to date about these allegations, telling the National Enquirer that "I am not going to give in to people who try to exploit me because of my celebrity status."

Constand then sues Cosby alleging battery, assault, infliction of emotional distress, defamation and invasion of privacy. She makes the same allegations cited in the summary of her complaint to Canadian police, but also alleges that he "digitally penetrated her." Her suit eventually names nine women—Tamara Green and eight Jane Does—as witnesses who would testify about prior sexual assaults.

Tamara Green appears on NBC's "Today" show on Feb. 10, 2005, saying that Constand's allegation about being drugged and assaulted compelled her to speak publicly about an encounter she said she had with Cosby in the 1970s. She says Cosby groped and fondled her at her Los Angeles apartment after immobilizing her with what he said was cold medicine. Cosby's lawyer calls the allegations "absolutely false," and says Cosby did not even recognize her name.

Beth Ferrier, identified as Jane Doe No. 5, goes public on June 23, 2005, alleging that as a model in New York in 1984, she met Cosby and they had a brief affair. She claims Cosby drugged her coffee during an encounter in Denver and she woke up hours later in the backseat of her car with her clothes disheveled.

Janice Dickinson, in a June 6, 2006, radio interview with Howard Stern, describes Cosby as a "bad guy" and says he "preys on women." She says her publishing company forced her to downplay passages in a 2002 memoir about an alleged encounter the model and comedian had 20 years earlier. The book says Cosby was upset when she declined to go to his hotel room, saying "After all I've done for you, that's what I get?"

Barbara Bowman is named in a June 9, 2006, Philadelphia magazine report as one of the Jane Does giving depositions or statements in support of Constand's lawsuit. Constand and Cosby settle their claims out of court for an undisclosed sum that November, but it doesn't stop People magazine from publishing a detailed account of Bowman's allegations a month later. Bowman tells People that Cosby won her trust as an 18-year-old aspiring actress in 1985 and drugged and assaulted her multiple times in Reno, Nevada and Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Eight years pass.

In January 2014, The New York Times publishes an open letter by Dylan Farrow accusing another celebrity—her stepfather, Woody Allen—of abusing her as a child. Newsweek magazine follows in February, reviving the allegations from the one-time "Jane Does," publishing interviews in February with Green and Bowman.

Comedian Hannibal Buress makes "you rape women, Bill Cosby" a laugh line in his standup routine. Cosby's planned return to television begins to implode.

Bowman then writes in The Washington Post that "Cosby had drugged and raped me, too." Her Nov. 13 essay questions why it took a male comedian's comments to create the public outcry.

Joan Tarshis comes forward on Nov. 16, 2014, alleging that Cosby drugged and assaulted her in 1969, when she was 19. She says Cosby forced her to perform oral sex on him during one encounter, and then drugged and raped her in another. Cosby's lawyer issues a blanket denial of "decade-old, discredited allegations," stating that "the fact that they are being repeated does not make them true." The next day, Cosby's lawyer clarifies that his statement does not apply to Constand.

Dickinson then reappears, telling "Entertainment Tonight" on Nov. 18 that Cosby sexually assaulted her in 1982. She says Cosby gave her red wine and a pill in a Lake Tahoe, California, hotel room. Dickinson says she wrote about the alleged assault in a draft of her 2002 autobiography, "No Lifeguard on Duty: The Accidental Life of the World's First Supermodel," but that Cosby and his lawyers pressured her and the publisher to remove the claim.

Netflix indefinitely postpones the Nov. 27, 2014, premiere of a Cosby comedy special, "Bill Cosby 77." NBC then scraps a Cosby comedy series under development, and TV Land stops airing reruns of "The Cosby Show."

Castor—the prosecutor who decided not to bring charges in 2005—reveals that Cosby had been evasive during his investigation. "I think when he said that he didn't do anything improper or illegal, I thought then he was lying and I still do," he tells The Associated Press. But Castor says there was not enough evidence to prove anything

Therese Serignese, named in documents as a "Jane Doe," comes forward as Cosby's 7th named accuser, alleging that he drugged and assaulted her in 1976, when she was 19. The same day, Nov. 20, 2014, the AP releases video from a Nov. 6 interview with Cosby and his wife, Camille, when they were being asked about their decision to loan paintings and other artworks to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art in Washington, D.C. When asked about the sex allegations resurfacing, Cosby refuses to discuss them. Later, with a microphone still attached and the camera rolling, he questions the news organization's integrity for raising the issue and says, "I would appreciate if it was scuttled."

Judy Huth becomes the first woman to go public with a claim Cosby abused her when she was underage, filing a lawsuit Dec. 2 in Los Angeles Superior Court alleging the comedian forced her to perform a sex act in a bedroom of the Playboy Mansion around 1974, when she was 15. On Dec. 4, Cosby's attorney Martin D. Singer responds in a court filing, writing the lawsuit followed a failed attempt by Huth a decade ago to sell a story about the comedian to a tabloid and try to extort money in exchange for her silence. Los Angeles police detectives meet with Huth for 90 minutes to discuss the allegations, and 10 days later on Dec. 16, Los Angeles prosecutors decline to file charges against Cosby.

Chloe Goins, a model, meets with Los Angeles police Jan. 14 to discuss her claims Cosby drugged and sexually abused her at the Playboy Mansion in August 2008. She is the first woman accusing Cosby of sexual misconduct whose case may fall within the statute of limitations. In a Jan. 16 statement, Cosby's attorney Martin D. Singer writes Cosby was in New York the night Goins claims he was at the Playboy Mansion.

Helen Gumpel, a former fashion model and actress previously known as Helen Selby, who appeared on one episode of "The Cosby Show" in 1988, holds a Feb. 8 news conference at a Boston hotel, alleging Cosby made sexual advances and lewd gestures toward her while she was on the set of the show.

Jennifer Thompson, in an interview with The Associated Press published March 10, says that as an aspiring actress and model in the late 1980s, she fended off unwanted sexual advances from Cosby, and that Cosby once gave her $700 after she performed a sex act on the comedian. Her parents, William and Judy Thompson, say they met with Cosby when their daughter was 17, and that he promised to help their daughter, reassuring them she would be fine living in an apartment with other models as she launched her career.

Lise-Lotte Lublin, a former model, asks Nevada lawmakers on March 13 to remove the state's statute of limitations on sexual assault, saying she passed out in the Las Vegas Hilton in 1989 after Cosby gave her two alcoholic drinks. The former model says she remembers Cosby stroking her hair, and then she woke up at home. After hearing similar allegations from other women, she concluded something happened to her while unconscious. She says she filed a police report in January, but was told Cosby couldn't be charged because too much time had passed. On May 26, Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval signs a bill extending the state's reporting deadline for sex assaults from four years to 20 years after the date of the alleged crime.

In summer 2015, Cosby fights efforts by The Associated Press to unseal his deposition in the lawsuit brought by Andrea Constand a decade earlier, with his lawyer saying it would reveal details of the comedian's marriage, sex life and prescription drug use and would "be terribly embarrassing." On Monday, a judge releases the documents, revealing that Cosby admitted in 2005 that he got quaaludes with the intent of giving them to young women he wanted to have sex with, and that he gave the sedative to at least one woman and "other people." He also said that he had given Constand three half-pills of Benadryl but did not admit to giving her quaaludes. Lawyers for some of the women making accusations express hope that the revelations will help other cases.

Environment

Glacial earthquakes help researchers track massive ice loss

By AMINA KHAN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Glaciers might move slowly, but they have their dramatic moments. Scientists tracking glacial earthquakes in Greenland have managed to crack open the mysterious dynamics of calving icebergs.

The results, published in the journal Science, could help scientists track the loss of the Greenland Ice Sheet, which is shrinking even faster than Antarctica.

Glacial earthquakes are caused by the calving of glacier ice—when a massive shard cracks like a gunshot and sloughs off the frozen wall.

Breathtaking as these events are, they're caused by very different dynamics than your standard earthquakes, which occur suddenly after stresses building in the ground finally release. Glacial earthquakes, by contrast, can take several minutes to play out.

These events also have significant consequences for the loss of glacial ice that's happening in the context of rising sea levels and climate change.

"Nearly half of Greenland's mass loss occurs through iceberg calving, but the physical mechanisms operating during calving are poorly known and in situ observations are sparse," the authors wrote.

The international team of scientists suspected that glacial earthquakes were linked to these calving events, but there was little data to support that theory. So they placed a wireless network of GPS sensors around the calving margin of Helheim Glacier, which is a major outlet of the Greenland Ice Sheet, and monitored the network for 55 days.

They also placed two cameras in front of the calving border, which took pictures on an hourly basis. These cameras acted like two eyes, allowing the researchers to reconstruct a three-dimensional model of the glacier's front and the calved icebergs.

Back in the lab, the researchers ran simulations in a cylindrical tank mimicking the fjords, which are thin fingers of seawater that extend into land (and where the water meets the Helheim Glacier wall). They used a rectangular box with the same density as the ice in order to mimic the movement of a calving iceberg and measure the forces it generated in the water.

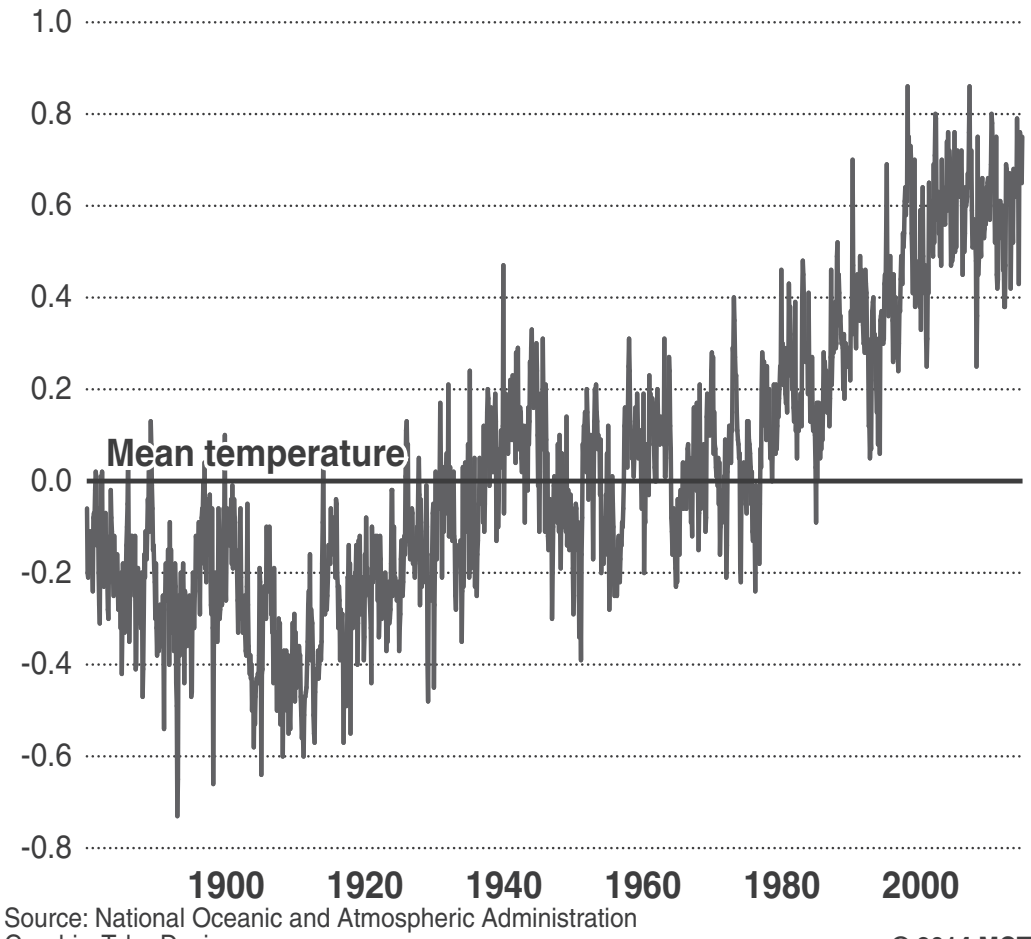
The scientists found that as the calving ice fell, it would often flip backward and push the glacier back, causing it to briefly reverse direction, and triggering the earthquakes' horizontal motion. Then, when it plunged into the water, the water pressure behind it would plummet, causing the main glacier to go down 10 centimeters while pulling the earth upward. This generated the vertical forces observed in glacial earthquakes, the scientists found.

"These forces are the source of glacial earthquakes, globally detectable seismic events whose proper interpretation will allow remote sensing of calving processes occurring at increasing numbers of outlet glaciers in Greenland and Antarctica," the authors wrote.

Calving events are sporadic and unpredictable, so catching them in action is no easy proposition. But by monitoring a network of quake detectors, scientists could keep track of exactly how much calving ice is being lost from glaciers around the world.

Global temperature anomalies

The change in temperature from a long-term average is used to measure climate change. Here's a look at global temperature change since 1880:



Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Graphic: Tyler Davis

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Japan opts for massive, costly sea wall to fend off tsunamis

By ELAINE KURTENBACH
AP BUSINESS WRITER

SENDAI, Japan (AP)—More than four years after a towering tsunami ravaged much of Japan's northeastern coast, efforts to fend off future disasters are focusing on a nearly 400-kilometer (250-mile) chain of cement sea walls, at places nearly five stories high.

Opponents of the 820 billion yen ($6.8 billion) plan argue that the massive concrete barriers will damage marine ecology and scenery, hinder vital fisheries and actually do little to protect residents who are mostly supposed to relocate to higher ground. Those in favor say the sea walls are a necessary evil, and one that will provide some jobs, at least for a time.

In the northern fishing port of Osabe, Kazutoshi Musashi chafes at the 12.5-meter (41-foot)-high concrete barrier blocking his view of the sea.

"The reality is that it looks like the wall of a jail," said Musashi, 46, who lived on the seaside before the tsunami struck Osabe and has moved inland since.

Pouring concrete for public works is a staple strategy for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and its backers in big business and construction, and local officials tend to go along with such plans.

The paradox of such projects, experts say, is that while they may reduce some damage, they can foster complacency. That can be a grave risk along coastlines vulnerable to tsunamis, storm surges and other natural disasters. At least some of the 18,500 people who died or went missing in the 2011 disasters failed to heed warnings to escape in time.

Tsuneaki Iguchi was mayor of Iwanuma, a town just south of the region's biggest city, Sendai, when the tsunami triggered by a magnitude-9 earthquake just off the coast inundated half of its area.

A 7.2-meter (24-foot) -high sea wall built years earlier to help stave off erosion of Iwanuma's beaches slowed the wall of water, as did stands of tall, thin pine trees planted along the coast. But the tsunami still swept up to 5 kilometers (3 miles) inland. Passengers and staff watched from the upper floors and roof of the airport as the waves carried off cars, buildings and aircraft, smashing most homes in densely populated suburbs not far from the beach.

The city repaired the broken sea walls but doesn't plan to make them any taller. Instead, Iguchi was one of the first local officials to back a plan championed by former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to plant mixed forests along the coasts on tall mounds of soil or rubble, to help create a living "green wall" that would persist long after the concrete of the bigger, man-made structures has crumbled.

"We don't need the sea wall to be higher. What we do need is for everyone to evacuate," Iguchi said.

"The safest thing is for people to live on higher ground and for people's homes and their workplaces to be in separate locations. If we do that, we don't need to have a 'Great Wall,'" he said.

While the lack of basic infrastructure can be catastrophic in developing countries, too heavy a reliance on such safeguards can lead communities to be too complacent at times, says Margareta Wahlstrom, head of the U.N.'s Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.

"There's a bit of an overbelief in technology as a solution, even though everything we have learned demonstrates that people's own insights and instincts are really what makes a difference, and technology in fact makes us a bit more vulnerable," Wahlstrom said in an interview ahead of a recent conference in Sendai convened to draft a new framework for reducing disaster risks.

In the steelmaking town of Kamaishi, more than 1,000 people died in the 2011 tsunami, but most school students fled to safety zones immediately after the earthquake, thanks to training by a civil engineering professor, Toshitaka Katada.

The risk is not confined to Japan, said Maarten van Aalst, director of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Center, who sees this in the attitudes of fellow Dutch people who trust in their low-lying country's defenses against the sea.

"The public impression of safety is so high, they would have no idea what to do in case of a catastrophe," he said.

Despite pockets of opposition, getting people to agree to forego the sea walls and opt instead for Hosokawa's "Great Forest Wall" plan is a tough sell, says Tomoaki Takahashi, whose job is to win support for the forest project in local communities.

"Actually, many people are in favor of the sea walls, because they will create jobs," said Takahashi. "But even people who really don't like the idea also feel as if they would be shunned if they don't go along with those who support the plan," he said.

While the "Great Forest Wall" being planted in some areas would not stave off flooding, it would slow tsunamis and weaken the force of their waves. As waters recede, the vegetation would help prevent buildings and other debris from flowing back out to sea. Such projects would also allow rain water to flow back into the sea, a vital element of marine ecology.

Some voices in unexpected places are urging a rethink of the plan.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's wife, Akie, offered numerous objections to cementing the northeast coast in a speech in New York last September. She said the walls may prevent residents from keeping an eye out for future tsunamis and would be costly to maintain for already dwindling coastal communities.

"Please do not proceed even if it's already decided," she said. Instead of a one-size-fits-all policy, she suggested making the plan more flexible. "I ask, is building high sea walls to shield the coast line really, really the best?"

Rikuzentakata, a small city near Osabe whose downtown area was wiped out by the tsunami, is building a higher sea wall, but also moving many tons of earth to raise the land well above sea level.

Local leader Takeshi Konno said no construction project will eliminate the need for coastal residents to protect themselves.

"What I want to stress is that no matter what people try to create, it won't beat nature, so we humans need to find a way to co-exist with nature," Konno said. "Escaping when there is danger . the most important thing is to save your life."

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Tournament of Champions registration still on

Sign-up for the 20th Tournament of Champions is still ongoing.

Golfers registering for the Aug. 1 and 2 competition that will take place at the LaoLao Golf & Resort will have a chance to learn lots of cash and in-kind prizes. Registration is only $200 (covering both days) and sign-up forms are available at T Galleria and LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort or can be downloaded at tocsaipan.com

Cars, airline tickets, and cash are at stake as hole-in-one prizes. Joeten Motors is giving away 2015 Ford Escape as hole-in-one prize, while Atkins Kroll is and Club C are donating 2015 Toyota Prius Hybrid and 2016 Nissan 370 Z, respectively.

Club C will also give away $25,000 for another hole-in-one contest, while Pacific Insurance Underwriters, Inc, is sponsoring $10,000 in the same competition. Other hole-in-one prizes are two Delta One tickets (anywhere in the U.S.) from Delta Air Lines and one business class ticket from Asiana (from anywhere the airline flies except U.S.). The contested holes will be announced before tournament kicks off.

Besides the hole-in-one purse, cash prizes will also go to Top 3 finishers in the men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior, and Super Senior flights. The champions in each flight will get $500, $400 to second, and $300 to third. Digital cameras and $100 gift certificate from T Galleria will be given to the fourth and fifth placers, respectively.

In the Ladies flight, the Top 3 placers in the Low Gross category will pocket $500, $400, and $300, while the Top 3 in the Low Net will bring home trophies. Cash prizes and other perks will also be awarded to the closest to the pin winners.

Next month's TOC is supported by platinum sponsors T Galleria, Club C, Marianas Visitors Authority, LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, and Delta Air Lines; gold sponsors Chivas Regal, IT&E, Tan Holdings, Saipan Computer Services, Joeten Motors, Nike Golf, Atkins Kroll, Let's Go Places, and Asiana Airlines; silver sponsors Bridge Capital, Christian Dior, KZMI/KCNMI, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc., Power 99, Marianas Variety, Miller Lite/Pepsi, Hyatt Latte Training Academy AHLEI, GPPC, and KSPN; bronze sponsors Chong's Corporation, Hard Rock Café, Kautz Glass, Herman's Modern Bakery, Saipan Ice & Water Company, Triple B Forwarders, and First Hawaiian Bank; and Century Hotel and Saipan Shipping Co.

To register or for more information, contact Marida Pensader at 236-2530. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Last year's Championship Flight winner Daryl Poe of Guam is seen here getting ready to hit the ball from the greens of the No. 17 hole of the east course at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort. This year's TOC will be held on Aug. 1 and 2.

NMI

From Page 28

the Pacific were still separate regions. The CNMI were the Pacific representatives while Japan carried Asia.

The CNMI were also the Pacific representatives in 2004 where they ended Guam's three-year reign from 2001 to 2003.

Chinese Taipei topped the tournament the following year where Asia and Pacific was combined into one region. Guam went to South Williamsport in 2008 while Chinese Taipei reigned from 2009 to 2013 with South Korea breaking their streak last year.

Saipan earned the right of representing the Commonwealth after sweeping Rota in a race-to-three series in last month's CNMI District Tournament hosted by the Southern island.

The Saipan All-Stars opened with a 5-4 win over Rota then followed that up with a 7-0 shutout decision before completing the three-game sweep with a 19-8 thrashing of the hosts, highlighted by Aven Evangelista's inside-the-park grand slam.

The team, a pitcher-heavy squad, is composed of the 14 best players from the 12 teams that competed in the Saipan Little League's last season.

Flores, who is being aided by coaches Tomas A. Camacho and Michael A. Cruz, said that they chose a lot of pitchers since unlike in the regular season of their tournament the pitchers can rest.

Little League headquarters is strict in implementing pitch count as a pitchers number of throws is monitored closely to avoid injury.

The team is composed of lone female player Kiana Aldan, Jordan Babauta, Saipan Little League regular season most valuable player Vicente A. Camacho II, finals MVP Zachary Camacho, Justin Celis, Orren Cruz, Donaven Deleon Guerrero, Aven Evangelista, Kyle Kapileo, Antonio Deleon Guerrero, Norita, Devon B. Pangelinan, Sean Rabauliman, Joven Reyes, and Zach Reyes.

The team has also received a huge financial boost from Skywalker Communications Group, which shouldered the visa travel fee of the entire squad—14 players, a manager, and two coaches—that cost $5,406.

The donation made possible by Saipan & Northern Islands Municipal Council vice chair and Zoning Board treasurer Alice S. Igitol and former CNMI House Speaker Oscar C. Rasa, who both asked the help of Skywalker managing director Dr. Bo Hu.

HOMEBOYZ

From Page 28

home bar at Jokers.

The Homeboyz also defeated the Abyss Rack 'N' Roll while the Deadshot beat the Smoke Pub Magic 8-Ball on their way to the finals.

The Abyss Titans clinched the regular season crown with Wild Bill's placing second. Regular season topnotcher Route33 Alamo Car Rental finished third while the Homeboyz fourth.

In the Tuesday league, the Jokers IT&E Voyagers and Abyss Crazy 8 moved on to the semifinals after dispatching separate foes in the race-to-nine series.

The Voyagers and Crazy 8 completed 9-8 win over the Smoke Pub Armatech Hustlers and Jokers STR8 Shooters last July 7.

The semis matches are set next Tuesday with the Smoke Pub Ali'I Destroyers and the Abyss Homeboyz II forming the other pair. The finals is on July 21.

The Voyagers ruled the regular season with the Hustlers and Crazy 8 placing second and third, respectively.

The awards banquet will be held on July 26, Sunday, 10:30am to 3:00pm at Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Jokers IT&E Voyagers will be aiming for a finals berth in the Budweiser Cup Tuesday 8-ball League against the Abyss Crazy 8.

CAMPAIGNS

From Page 28

their respective personal best times in Day 7 of the medal-rich swimming event at the Tauarama Aquatic Centre and Indoor Sports Complex.

Chentsova has already recorded a PBT in the preliminary round of the 100-meter freestyle after submitting 1:04.31 to break her 1:04.53.

She also made it to the medal round of the 200m freestyle on Tuesday morning after finishing third overall out of the 16 swimmers that reached the semifinals after clocking 2:15.64 to break her old PBT of 2:18.64.

New Caledonia's Lara Grangeon, Ylenka Maurin, and Lea Ricarrere, Fiji's Matelita Buarromo Tieri Erasito, and Brooke Smith, and host Papua New Guinea's Anna-Liza Jane joined Chentsova in the 200m freestyle finals.

Chentsova also recorded a new PBT in 35.81 seconds in the 50m backstroke to shatter hed old record of 36.50 seconds.

De Jesus posted times of 1:07.51 in the 100m freestyle, 2:33.35 (2oom freestyle) and 39.35 seconds in the 50m backstroke while Sugie eclipsed his 33.80 seconds PBT in the 50m backstroke with 32.47 seconds while clocking 2:16.19 in the 200m freestyle and 1:08.07 in the 100m butterfly.

The open water swim finals is set Sunday, July 12.

Tony Stearns' wife Janet McCullough and their daughter Emily Stearns were competing in the second day of action in sailing at the Royal Papua Yacht Club at PNG's capital, while competition in va'a resumes on Friday.

Triathlon finished last Sunday with Peter Prestley becoming the top finisher for Team CNMI with a time of 1:23:22 in the 750-kilometer swim, 20K bike, and 5K run.

Tony Stearns and Brad Ruszala, the other members of the CNMI triathlon squad had times of 1:33:14 and 1:37:30.

The opening rounds of beach volleyball and golf starts on July 13 while athletics will be the following day on July 14 along with the bodybuilding finals.

The CNMI's four-member golf team—composed of player-coach Joe "Kamikaze" Camacho, Harry Nakamura, Franco Santos, and Louie Tilipao—and bodybuilders Donivan Mendiola and Aaron Tomokane are scheduled to leave on July 11.

Seiya Eda, meanwhile, ran in the qualifying heats of the 1,500m run in the Summer Universiade at the Gwangju World Cup Stadium at Gwangju City's Seo-gu District.

ASPAC Junior, Senior, and Big League Regionals

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ

Guam pitcher Mike Concepcion watches his throw to the plate in their opening match against host CNMI in the Big League division of the 2015 Asia Pacific Middle East Regional Baseball Tournament last June 26 at the Francisco M. Palacios ballfield.

CNMI catcher Henry Aguon, center, makes the block as Hong Kong batter Yoki Tomiyama looks on.

Filipino fans show their support for Team Philippines.

CNMI Big League manager Tony Rogolifoi, second left, holds a mini powwow to discuss their team's next play in their game against Guam.

CNMI Senior League pitcher Ethan Babauta throws to a Guam batter.

Chinese Taipei's Yao Yu Siang, left, slows down as he nears home plate.

The Philippines' Lorenzo Amado, right, strikes out.

The Philippines Marthy Ranada throws a pitch in their Junior League match against Australia.

CNMI's Henry Aguon, right, reaches home plate as Australian catcher Maverick Hamilton waits for the relay throw from the outfield.

Chinese Taipei's Liu Ji Hong, left, distances himself from CNMI first baseman Spencer Dickerson as he prepares to run to second base.

Tournament of Champions registration still on
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No update on NMI athletes' campaigns

JON PEREZ
Carter Calma, front, and the CNMI va'a team are seeing action in the XV Pacific Games at the Lancron Naval Base in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

CNMI sports fans were left wondering how Commonwealth athletes measured up in separate off-island events after the islands' Internet connection went down early Wednesday morning.

The bulk of Team CNMI's 35-member delegation is currently in Papua New Guinea for the XV Pacific Games in Port Moresby while long distance runner Seiya Eda is representing the Commonwealth in the XXVIII Summer World University Games in Gwangju City in South Korea.

Saipan Swim Club members Victoria Chentsova, Angel De Jesus, and Takumi Sugie were aiming to improve

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NMI avoids 'group of death'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The CNMI Majors All-Stars avoided the group of defending champion South Korea in the Asia Pacific Middle East Little League Regional Baseball Tournament set from July 13 to 21 at the Guilin Institute of Tourism in Guilin, China.

Team CNMI, which will be represented by Saipan in this year's regionals, is in Pool A along with tournament darkhorses Hong Kong and the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, and host China.

Powerhouse Chinese Taipei, and dangerous Indonesia, Guam and Thailand join South Korea in Pool B.

CNMI manager Joe Flores, along with head coach Tomas A. Camacho and assistant Mike A. Cruz, are expecting a tough task in the ASPAC regionals in their bid to guide the team back to the Little League Baseball World Series in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

It has been eight years since the CNMI reached the World Series when they last made it in 2006 when Asia and

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JON PEREZ
Orren Cruz, left, prepares to bunt during one of the CNMI All-Stars practice session at the Miguel Basa Pangelinan ballfield in preparation for the 2015 Asia Pacific Middle East Little League Regional Baseball Tournament set from July 13 to 21 at the Guilin Institute of Tourism in Guilin, China.

Homeboyz, Deadshot clash in Bud Cup finals

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Jokers Homeboyz and the Hobbies Deadshot arranged a title showdown for Budweiser Cup Thursday Open 8-ball crown after beating separate opponents in separate semis matches last week.

The Homeboyz completed a 9-6 upset win over regular season champions Wild Bill's while the Deadshot routed Jonny's Team SCS, 9-3.

Today's finals, however, will be rescheduled due to Typhoon Nangka. The Deadshot were going to host the Homeboyz in their

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Jokers Homeboyz aim to clinch the Budweiser Cup Thursday 8-ball League crown against the Deadshot.